

passed and maintained the ideosphere. Memes are the basic unit, or atom, of which the elements residing in the ideosphere are formed. Coherent thoughts and ideas are the result of accumulations of memes. Memes combine with other memes to form idea-molecules. These idea-molecules can then combine further to create full-fledged memetic structures, up to and including the most complex myths, abstract ideas, religious systems, and languages.

The human mind acts as a machine capable of accepting, storing, rearranging, transforming, and reordering memes. In addition, the mind is very capable of transmitting memes to, and receiving memes from, the ideosphere, with or without conscious intent.

Memetic Chemistry

Meme Atoms

Meme atoms are individual units of symbolic thought. Meme atoms constitute the fabric of which memetic molecules are woven and out of which the ideosphere is formed.

Meme Molecules

Meme molecules are combinations of meme atoms. Since meme atoms are individual units of thought, meme molecules are complex ideas (consisting of more than a single symbolic thought).

In chemistry, molecules are conglomerations of chemical elements which bind together to form larger, more complex structures. In Memetic Magic, meme molecules are combinations of individual memes which bind together to form more complex ideas. An excellent example of a meme molecule would be the italicized word in parenthesis at the end of this sentence (*tree*). The word *tree* is actually composed of four separate letters, the t, r, e, and e. Each of the individual letters in the word are distinct symbolic elements within the English language system. Therefore, these letters are properly labeled *memetic atoms*. When the individual letters t, r, e, and e bind together they form the word *tree* and symbolize a more complex idea than the sum of the original parts. That is, the concept *tree* is

much more complex than the combined concepts of the letters t, r, e, and e. Thus, any word in the English language is a memetic molecule.

Any complex concept is a memetic molecule which can be broken down, or diluted, into its individual elements. For instance, the concept *school* is a memetic molecule which can be diluted if desired. A correct *Memetic Chemistry* formula describing the dilution of the concept *school* would read:

$$\text{School} = 1^{\text{st}} \text{ Grade} + 2^{\text{nd}} \text{ Grade} + 3^{\text{rd}} \text{ Grade} + 4^{\text{th}} \text{ Grade} + \text{etc.}$$

Each of the individual elements extracted from the concept *school* could then be diluted in its own right.

$$2^{\text{nd}} \text{ Grade} = \text{Mrs. Greenleaf} + \text{King Elementary School} + \text{Room 109} + \text{etc.}$$

If desired, memetic molecules could be portrayed visually in the same manner as chemical molecules are presented.

Social Contamination & Purification

A socially contaminated thought is any thought affected to any degree by the Root Social Matrix. In practical, though not absolute terms, all conscious thought is socially affected. Any action taken as the result of socially contaminated thought is controlled to a greater or lesser degree by sociocultural forces. Thus, no actions which are socially contaminated can be considered truly free actions. Absolute freedom in thought and action, willed self determination, is only possible outside of sociocultural influence.

In practice it is nearly impossible for any human ever exposed to human society or culture to consciously deliberate without being influenced to some degree by sociocultural forces. Conscious thought sterilized from the contamination of all sociocultural influence is called *purified thought*. Theoretically, complete isolation from sociocultural influence would allow 100% purified thought to emerge spontaneously within the conscious mind. But achieving such a state of complete sociocultural isolation is extremely difficult. Therefore, in order to create purified thought it is often